

## CLAIMS

1. A thread for a vascular stent, implanted in vessels, wherein  
said thread is formed by melt-spinning a biodegradable polymer; and  
wherein  
a layer of a biodegradable polymer, containing a drug, of the same sort as the  
biodegradable polymer constituting said thread, is formed on the thread surface.
2. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 1 wherein said layer of  
biodegradable polymer containing the drug is formed by coating, on the thread  
surface, a drug-containing biodegradable polymer of the same sort as the  
biodegradable polymer constituting said thread.
3. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 1 wherein said biodegradable  
polymer constituting said thread is aliphatic polyester.
4. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 1 wherein said thread is a  
monofilament obtained on melt-spinning a biodegradable polymer using a screw  
extruder and on drawing the resulting thread.
5. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 1 wherein said thread is a  
multifilament obtained on melt-spinning a biodegradable polymer using a screw  
extruder and on drawing the resulting thread.
6. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 1 wherein said drug exhibits an  
antithrombotic effect and/or an intimal hyperplasia suppressing effect.
7. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 6 wherein said drug exhibiting

the intimal hyperplasia suppressing effect is an immunosuppressive agent or an anticancer agent.

8. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 1 wherein a first layer of a drug-containing biodegradable polymer of the same sort of the biodegradable polymer forming the thread and a second layer formed only of a biodegradable polymer of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer forming the thread are sequentially formed on the thread surface.

9. A thread for a vascular stent, implanted in vessels, wherein

said thread is formed by mixing a drug into a biodegradable polymer and by melt-spinning the resulting biodegradable polymer; and wherein

a drug-containing layer of a biodegradable polymer of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer constituting said thread is formed on the thread surface.

10. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 9 wherein said biodegradable polymer layer containing the drug is formed by coating, on the thread surface, a drug-containing biodegradable polymer solution of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer constituting said thread.

11. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 9 wherein said biodegradable polymer constituting said thread is aliphatic polyester.

12. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 9 wherein said thread is a monofilament obtained on melt-spinning a drug-containing biodegradable polymer using a screw extruder and on drawing the resulting thread.

13. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 9 wherein said thread is a multifilament obtained on melt-spinning a drug-containing biodegradable polymer using a screw extruder and on drawing the resulting thread.

14. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 9 wherein said drug exhibits an antithrombotic effect and/or an intimal hyperplasia suppressing effect.

15. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 14 wherein said drug exhibiting the intimal hyperplasia suppressing effect is an immunosuppressive agent or an anticancer agent.

16. The thread for a vascular stent according to claim 9 wherein a first layer of a drug-containing biodegradable polymer of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer forming the thread and a second layer formed only of a biodegradable polymer of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer forming the thread are sequentially formed on the thread surface.

17. A vascular stent, used as it is implanted in vessels of a living body, comprising:

a main stent body formed by threads of a biodegradable polymer for a stent for vessels which are wound to a tube as each of the threads is bent in a zigzag design and is enlarged or contracted in diameter with the bends of the threads as displacing portions; wherein

the threads constituting the main stent body are formed on melt-spinning a biodegradable polymer, and a layer of a biodegradable polymer containing a drug which is of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer constituting the threads is

formed on the surface of the threads.

18. The vascular stent according to claim 17 wherein said biodegradable polymer constituting said thread is aliphatic polyester.

19. The vascular stent according to claim 17 wherein said thread is a monofilament obtained on melt-spinning a biodegradable polymer using a screw extruder and on drawing the resulting thread.

20. The vascular stent according to claim 17 wherein said thread is a multifilament obtained on melt-spinning a biodegradable polymer using a screw extruder and on drawing the resulting thread.

21. The vascular stent according to claim 17 wherein said drug exhibits an antithrombotic effect and/or an intimal hyperplasia suppressing effect.

22. The vascular stent according to claim 21 wherein said drug exhibiting the intimal hyperplasia suppressing effect is an immunosuppressive agent or an anticancer agent.

23. The vascular stent according to claim 17 wherein a first layer of a drug-containing biodegradable polymer of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer forming the thread and a second layer formed only of a biodegradable polymer of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer forming the thread are sequentially formed on the thread surface.

24. The vascular stent according to claim 17 wherein a biodegradable polymer solution of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer constituting said thread is

coated on the surface of said main stent body.

25. The vascular stent according to claim 17 wherein a biodegradable polymer solution of the same sort as the material constituting said thread is deposited on the surface of said main stent body to form a biodegradable polymer layer.

26. A vascular stent, used as it is implanted in vessels of a living body, comprising:

a main stent body formed by threads of a biodegradable polymer for a stent for vessels which are wound to a tube as each of the threads is bent in a zigzag design and is enlarged or contracted in diameter with the bends of the threads as displacing portions; wherein

the threads constituting the main stent body are formed on melt-spinning a drug-containing biodegradable polymer, and a layer of a biodegradable polymer containing a drug which is of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer constituting the threads is formed on the surface of the threads.

27. The vascular stent according to claim 26 wherein said biodegradable polymer constituting said thread is aliphatic polyester.

28. The vascular stent according to claim 26 wherein said thread is a monofilament obtained on melt-spinning a drug-containing biodegradable polymer using a screw extruder and on drawing the resulting thread.

29. The vascular stent according to claim 26 wherein said thread is a multifilament obtained on melt-spinning a drug-containing biodegradable polymer using a screw extruder and on drawing the resulting thread.

30. The vascular stent according to claim 26 wherein said drug exhibits an antithrombotic effect and/or an intimal hyperplasia suppressing effect.

31. The vascular stent according to claim 30 wherein said drug exhibiting the intimal hyperplasia suppressing effect is an immunosuppressive agent or an anticancer agent.

32. The vascular stent according to claim 26 wherein a first layer of a drug-containing biodegradable polymer of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer forming the thread and a second layer formed only of a biodegradable polymer of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer forming the thread are sequentially formed on the thread surface.

33. The vascular stent according to claim 26 wherein a biodegradable polymer solution of the same sort as the biodegradable polymer constituting said thread is coated on the surface of said main stent body.

34. The vascular stent according to claim 26 wherein a solution of a biodegradable polymer of the same sort as the material constituting said thread is deposited on the surface of said main stent body to form a biodegradable polymer layer.